

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-46 are pending in this case, with claims 1, 16, 23 and 36 being independent claims, and claims 2-14, 17-19, 32-34 and 43-45 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Because no claims are added by this amendment, it is believed that no additional fees are due for the consideration of this paper. However, if additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 13-2855.

Applicants' Interview Summary

On January 16, 2007, Applicants' attorney, Scott E. Baxendale, conducted a telephonic interview with Examiner Purol regarding the present application and the Office action's bases for rejection of several of the pending claims, including the disclosure of the Goebel reference. Mr. Baxendale and the Applicants again thank Examiner Purol for his time and consideration in granting the telephonic interview.

Regarding obviousness rejections in view of Goebel, Mr. Baxendale and Examiner Purol discussed the arguments being presented in this Response regarding Goebel's failure to teach or suggest a bottom rail having a first position in which the bottom rail encircles a pleated cover and prevents the covering from being extended. Examiner Purol acknowledged that the pliant fabric 28 of Goebel is not long enough to encircle the pleated cover 22. Mr. Baxendale further pointed out that Goebel provides no suggestion of lengthening the pliant fabric 28, and teaches away from doing so since the longer pliant fabric 28 would reduce the area of the shade available to reflect the solar radiation when the shade is extended. Mr. Baxendale also noted the absence of a teaching or suggestion of preventing the pleated fabric 22 from being extended. Examiner Purol agreed that these were very valid arguments and that he would consider the arguments when reviewing the Response. Examiner Purol also agreed to a follow up discussion after the Response is filed and before a further action is issued.